में रखते हुए राजसहायता के संबंध में और अधिक रियायतें देने का प्रस्ताव भी भेजा गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है तथा इस संबंध में क्या अनुवर्ती कार्रवाई की गई है?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डॉ ए.के. पटेल) : (क) और (ख) पेट्रोलियम और रसायन विषयक स्थायी समिति ने 10.7.98 को संसद में प्रस्तुत की गई अपनी छठी रिपोर्ट में यूरिया निर्माता एककों को राज-सहायता के भुगतान के संबंध में कुछ सिफारिशें की हैं। समिति ने रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने की तारीख अर्थात 10.1.99 से 6 माह के भीतर इन सिफारिशों पर "की गई कार्रवाई की रिपोर्ट" मांगी है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Disposal of Toxic Waste

627. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken so far for disposal of the toxic waste left by the Union Carbide Plant in and around the factory premises, where an unpercedent gas-leak disaster took place in December 1984; and

(b) whether ground water and soil of the area within and around the plant premises have been tested to find out, if the same are still contaminated due to prolonged spillage of toxic waste in the area; if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS : (DR. A.K. PATEL)

(a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that following steps have been taken for disposal of toxic waste left by Union Carbide plant at Bhopal :

1. Waste left in the three Solar evaporation ponds of the factory has been safely dumped in a secured landfill.

2. The studies for the disposal of tar residues placed in the premises of the factory are being carried out an Indian Institute of chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad.

3. According to National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur, report approx. one hectare land area in different pockets is contaminated and needs reclamation.

The lease of the land has been terminated by Deptt. of Industry, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, and possession taken by the District Industries Centre, Bhopal on 9.7.98 and that Department will take all remedial measures for decontamination, reclamation and all relevant action to prevent any health hazards.

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that they have got the ground water and soil around Union Carbide factory area tested by NEERI, Nagpur and M.P. Pollution Control Board, Bhopal and no contamination has been detected.

Recovery of extra subsidy paid to fertilizer companies

628. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem "Urea Units come under the Lens for Goldplating", published in the "Times of India" dated 23rd September, 1998;

(b) if so, the action taken so far to recover the extra subsidy paid to fertilizer companies because of over stating of the nameplate capacity of plants;

(c) whether the recovery could be with retrospective effect; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (d) Government has seen the newsitem that appeared in the Times of India on 23.9.98 and is aware of the high capacity utilisation being attained by some of the urea manufacturing units. Government is seized of the complexities of the various issues involved as well as the need to take a balanced and holistic view of the matter.